

below, and Applicants wish to reconfirm the election to prosecute claims drawn to Group I, which in view of the re-casting of the Restriction Requirement, now includes claims drawn to the polypeptides, chimeric molecules, nucleic acids, vectors, host cells, etc.

Entry of the following amendment to the claims is respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits. For the Examiner's convenience, now pending claims 1-14, 29, 34, 35, and 38-58 are reproduced below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 to read:

D' 1. Isolated RTD polypeptide having at least about 80% amino acid sequence identity with native sequence RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein said isolated RTD polypeptide modulates apoptosis in a mammalian cell or binds Apo-2 ligand.

sub 4 2. (As filed) The RTD polypeptide of claim 1 wherein said RTD polypeptide has at least about 90% amino acid sequence identity.

3. (As filed) The RTD polypeptide of claim 2 wherein said RTD polypeptide has at least about 95% amino acid sequence identity.

4. (As filed) Isolated native sequence RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

5. (As filed) Isolated RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 56 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

D² 6. (Once Amended) Isolated extracellular domain sequence of RTD polypeptide comprising (a) amino acid residues 56 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1); or (b) fragments of the sequence of (a) which retain at least one biological activity of a native sequence RTD

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cord polypeptide.

7. (As filed) The extracellular domain sequence of claim 6 comprising amino acid residues 1 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

8. (As filed) Isolated extracellular domain sequence of RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 99 to 139 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

9. (As filed) The extracellular domain sequence of claim 8 further comprising amino acid residues 141 to 180 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

10. (Once Amended) A chimeric molecule comprising the RTD polypeptide of claim 1 or claim 6 fused to a heterologous amino acid sequence.

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11. (Once Amended) The chimeric molecule of claim 10 wherein said RTD polypeptide comprises an extracellular domain sequence of claim 6 comprising amino acid residues 56 to 212 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

12. (As filed) The chimeric molecule of claim 10 wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is an epitope tag sequence.

13. (As filed) The chimeric molecule of claim 10 wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is an immunoglobulin sequence.

14. (As filed) The chimeric molecule of claim 13 wherein said immunoglobulin sequence is an IgG.

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29. (Once Amended) A composition comprising the RTD polypeptide of claim 1 or claim 6 and a carrier.

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34. (Once Amended) An article of manufacture, comprising a container and a composition contained within said container, wherein the composition includes the RTD polypeptide of claim 1 or claim 6.

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35. (Once Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 34 further comprising instructions for using the RTD polypeptide.

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Please add the following claims:

-- 38. The isolated RTD polypeptide of claim 4 consisting of amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

39. The isolated RTD polypeptide of claim 5 consisting of amino acid residues 56 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

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40. Isolated nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding the RTD polypeptide of claim 1 or the extracellular domain sequence of claim 6.

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41. The nucleic acid of claim 40 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes native sequence RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

42. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 40.

43. The vector of claim 42 operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

44. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 42.

45. The host cell of claim 44 which comprises a CHO cell.

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46. The host cell of claim 44 which comprises a yeast cell.

47. The host cell of claim 44 which comprises *E. coli*.

48. A process of using a nucleic acid molecule encoding RTD polypeptide to effect production of RTD polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 44.

49. The nucleic acid of claim 40 wherein said encoded RTD polypeptide has at least about 90% amino acid sequence identity with the RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

50. The nucleic acid of claim 49 wherein said encoded RTD polypeptide has at least about 95% amino acid sequence identity with the RTD polypeptide comprising amino acid residues 1 to 386 of Fig. 1A (SEQ ID NO:1).

51. The nucleic acid of claim 40 wherein said nucleotide sequence comprises the nucleotide coding region shown in SEQ ID NO:2.

52. A vector comprising the nucleic acid of claim 41.

53. The vector of claim 52 operably linked to control sequences recognized by a host cell transformed with the vector.

54. A host cell comprising the vector of claim 52.

55. The host cell of claim 54 which comprises a CHO cell.

56. The host cell of claim 54 which comprises a yeast cell.

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57. The host cell of claim 54 which comprises *E. coli*.

and 58. A process of using a nucleic acid molecule encoding RTD polypeptide to effect production of RTD polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 54. ---

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